

The Heterodyne

Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association

January Meeting via Zoom

Grounding and Bonding
Tim Duffy, K3LR

Wednesday, January 12
Meeting Starts at 7pm
Visitors Are Welcome!

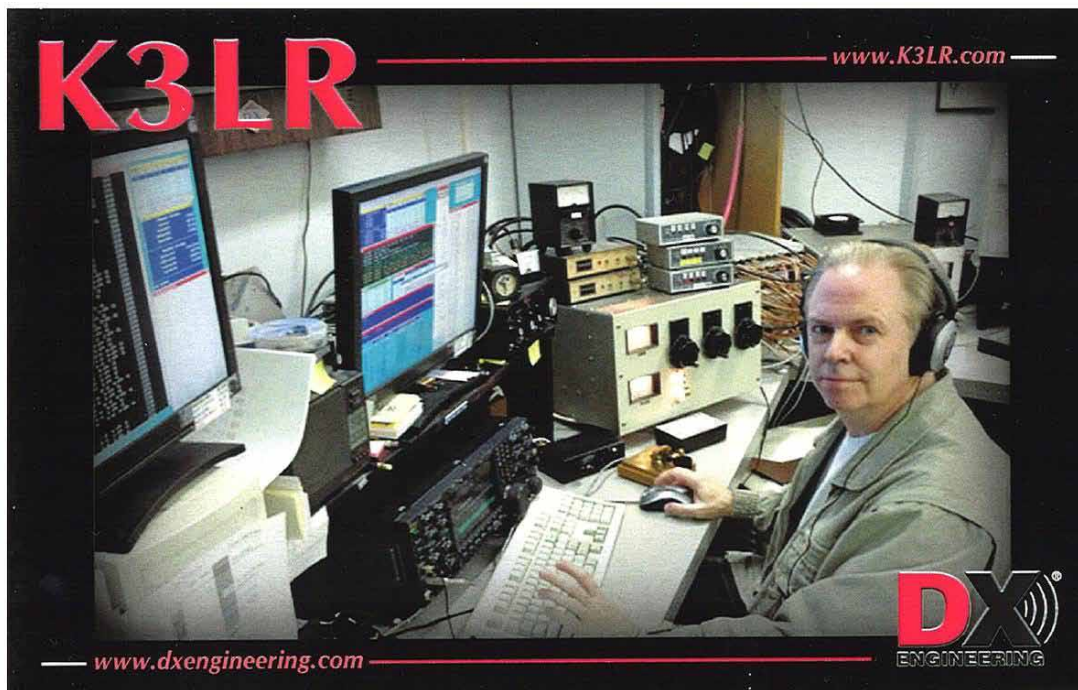
Due to the corona virus,
there will not be a meeting
at American Red Cross.

WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)		
Band	Frequency	PL
6 Meters*	52.580- MHz	151.4 Hz
2 Meters	147.39+ MHz	151.4 Hz
1.25 Meters	223.96- MHz	156.7 Hz
0.70 Meter	441.35+ MHz	88.5 Hz
0.23 Meter	1286.2- MHz	100 Hz

*** The 6 Meter repeater is currently down**

WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net control script can be found at www.wvara.org in the "On The Air" dropdown.

The next monthly WVARA meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday, January 12, via Zoom. Zoom instructions have been sent via the WVARA reflector and can likewise be obtained by contacting K6EI — his email is available via QRZ. Hope to see you there! Jim, K6EI, WVARA Vice President



Grounding and Bonding

Our January 12 presentation will be everything you might want to know about grounding and bonding — critical knowledge for reducing RFI in your shack. He will show us examples of what not to do, examples of proper installations, and the how they are put together.

Tim Duffy, K3LR, has been an active amateur radio operator for 48 years – starting as WN-3SZX in 1972. He has hosted 145 different operators from around the world as part of the K3LR Multi operator radio sport contest efforts since 1992. Tim has built a 13 tower station with 11 operating positions. He was the ARRL Atlantic Division Technical Achievement award winner in 1998.

Upcoming Meetings and Events		
Jan 12	Speaker: Tim Duffy, K3LR	Grounding/Bonding for RFI Mitigation
Jan 29-30	<i>Winter Field Day at Henry Coe State Park</i>	
Feb 9	Speaker: Bryan Klofas, KF6ZEO	Picoballoons in the Bay Area

Be a Cool Kid at Winter Field Day January 27-29, 2022

WVARA has quite a reputation for our successes during the ARRL's (summer) field day. But there's an alternate event that I find even more exciting: Winter Field Day (WFD). For the third year running, WVARA is going to give it our best shot.

WFD was first conceived as an emergency communication exercise by members of the Spa Amateur Radio Association ("SPAR") in Arkansas. The motivation is that emergency communications could be needed at any time in any kind of conditions. The first WFD event was held on January 13-14, 2007. But as the event grew, support by SPAR waned. So following the 2015 WFD, a new non-profit organization was formed, the Winter Field Day Association. With a more sustainable organization, and a refined set of rules, the popularity of WFD has only grown since.

In 2020, WVARA was the top-scoring outdoor station among those running QRP. Can we do even better in 2022? Read on and find out how you can join in the glory.

The 2022 event runs 24 hours starting 11am-PST on Saturday, January 28th. We're allowed 12 hours for set-up, which will happen on Friday afternoon, January 27th starting at 1pm-PST. The rules are available at: www.winterfeldday.com

We have reserved the entire "entrance lot" at Henry W. Coe State Park. The lot measures forty by eighty yards, the surface is a mix of dirt and gravel. The site is a half hour drive from downtown Morgan Hill, about a half mile from the park headquarters and their main campground.

We'll be signing members up for 90 minute shifts starting at the January WVARA meeting. I would like to ask at least two volunteers to come and help with setup on Friday. Everyone who is operating, or helping with set-up or teardown will be asked to sign a park volunteer waiver. We will function as docents, teaching any interested public visitors about our activities.

In 2020 we organized shared potluck meals and shared station shelters, and the food was a hit. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 precautions, meals will be the responsibility of each individual or family. Food and cooking are allowed in the entrance lot, but sleeping is not allowed (you have to sleep in the campground). No open fires are allowed in the lot.

We have reserved campsites for those of you who want to work longer shifts, or multiple shifts. Or you can just drive up for a shift any time during the event.

We plan to set-up two wire antennas for HF, one for phone and one for CW or digital. We'll also set-up a dual-band vertical for 2 meters and 70 centimeters. Operators can use any of these three shared antennas from tables outdoors, or from their own vehicle or tent (within the range of the coax).

These dangerous conditions, as determined by the park, will cause us to cancel:

- Rain more than 0.5", 48 hours before start, or forecast before the end of the event
- Wind gusts greater than 25 MPH
- Snow or ice on the steep road to the park

Other clubs around the country will be operating in far less hospitable conditions than we will, so I know you can do this! Please come and join us.



Entrance



Stations



KC6ZKT works SSB



Sunset



K6EI and KC6ZKT



KC6ZKT and N6KR



K0XI and N6KR



Tree and Fog



WFD Crew

WVARA Net Check-Ins (W6PIY)				
Tuesdays at 8:30 PM				
Callsign	Name	12/21/21	12/28/21	01/04/22
Total		14	14	19
AF6AE	Bill	X	X	X
K6EI	Jim	X		X
K6LOH	Celeste		X	X
K6QFO	Mike		X	X
K6VP	Dan	X		X
KC6ZKT	Steve	X		X
KF6EMB	Svend			X
KK6HPF	Ross		X	X
KK6VF	Kevin	NET	NET	NET
KN6FGH	Tim	X	X	X
KN6OGS	Ryan	X	X	
KN6SES	Ram			X
KX6B	Dick	X		
N6BTU	Wayne		X	
W1MVY	Scott			X
W6ACX	Jonathan			X
W6BG	Max	X		X
W6ESL	Tom		X	
W6IA	Mark	X	X	X
W8RJL	Ron	X	X	X
WB6JHI	Steve	X	X	
WB6JMR	Mark			X
WB6KHP	Dave	X	X	X
WD9DD	Russ		X	
WR6Z	Dave	X		X

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